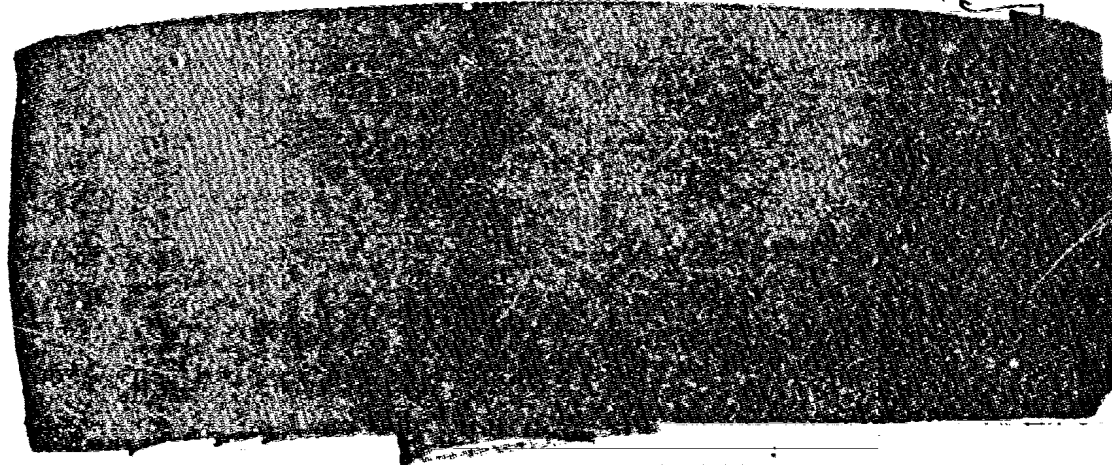


3 April 1972

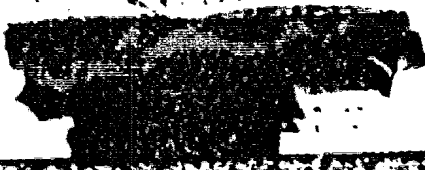
## MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Viet Cong (VC) Quang Ngai Province Prison Complex;  
Sightings of U. S. Prisoners There



1. The Viet Cong (VC) Quang Ngai Province prison complex consisted of five separate prison camps located in the mountains in the southwestern corner of Son Ha District. The code designation was B-7. The complex received civilian and military prisoners; in late February 1972 it had one U. S. prisoner.

2. The military prison camp at AS998429 held Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN), Regional Forces (RF), Popular Forces (PF) and U. S. prisoners. Uncooperative prisoners were bound most of the time, were confined, and received less food than cooperative prisoners. Cooperative prisoners were never tied or abused, and were allowed free run of the camp. All except U. S. prisoners received a daily food ration of 200 grams of rice and minute amounts of nuoc mam



[REDACTED]

and salt. The camp was about 100 by 80 meters in size, had four bamboo and thatch structures and was surrounded by a two-meter high bamboo fence. There was a ten-man security force armed with AK-47 rifles. As of late February 1972, there were 40 ARVN prisoners at this camp.

3. In 1969, this military prison camp had had five U.S. prisoners captured in the Khe Sanh area. In mid-1970, three were sent to North Vietnam (NVN). Two declined to go to NVN in favor of remaining prisoners of the VC. In late 1970, one of the U.S. prisoners remaining in the camp tried to escape and was recaptured. He was shot and killed after capture. He was about 40 years old, 1.90 meters tall with a round face, square chin, brown hair, blue eyes, light skin, and heavy build. In late February 1972 one U.S. prisoner was still in the camp. He did not work in food production, but received 500 grams of rice daily and additional foods. He was about 35, height about 1.85 meters, weight unknown, but he was considered by the VC to be fat. He had blond hair, brown eyes and a square face with a pointed chin. Although [REDACTED] personally observed the U.S. prisoner, most of the information concerning the prisoner was obtained in a conversation with the Camp Commander Nguyen Dien.\*

4. Other camps included:

A. The Lang Giam Camp, near BS002489, a screening and interrogation center for all prisoners coming into the prison complex. About 120 by 80

[REDACTED] Comment: The Joint Personnel Recovery Center (JPRC) has stated that in 1969 there were 11 U.S. POWs known to be held in Quang Ngai Province. Nine were Caucasian and 2 were Negro, but all were captured in Quang Ngai, Quang Tin and lower Quang Nam Provinces. One Negro and 2 Caucasians were released on 5 November 1969. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had been in the camp approximately one week prior to this and said that there were still five U.S. in the camp (all Caucasian). Information available to JPRC indicates that all personnel captured in upper I CORPS are moved into NVN (the ones from Khe Sanh and Hue) or into Laos (Lang Vei) and then north along the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

[REDACTED]

meters in size, it was surrounded by a two-meter high bamboo fence. It contained 11 bamboo and thatch structures and had a 20-man security force with AK-47 rifles. All staff members were southerners. In late February 1972 there were about 45 prisoners, none U.S.

B. The Lang Thi Camp, near BS002487, for uncooperative prisoners. Prisoners were tied up all the time and received harsh punishment frequently. It covered an area of about 100 by 60 meters, was surrounded by a two-meter high bamboo fence and had four bamboo and thatch structures. It had a ten-man security force, and there were 36 prisoners.

C. The Yen Tam Camp, near AS996473, for cooperative prisoners. About 100 by 80 meters in size, it contained five bamboo and thatch structures, was surrounded by a two-meter high bamboo fence, and had a ten-man security force. Prisoners worked on food production and were guarded by two security personnel while outside the camp area. There were 36 prisoners.

D. The Nuoc Bi Camp, near AS999479, for cooperative prisoners being trained for assignments in VC military or civilian organizations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] About 120 by 60 meters in size, it contained five bamboo and thatched structures, had no perimeter fence but did have a five-man security guard. There were 30 prisoners in this camp. The food production averaged about 2,000 ang of rice, 200 ang of peanuts, 20 ang of corn, and a substantial amount of manioc (one ang equals about six kilograms) per six months. This food was stored at the production sites and twice yearly transportation personnel of the Quang Ngai Province unit came to take the food.\*

[REDACTED]